Several changes to procedures and systems were implemented prior to the enactment of the Adoption (Amendment) Act 2017.

The majority (35) of the domestic adoptions were stepfamily adoptions.

The Authority granted 72 domestic adoptions.

The number of adoption orders made in respect of children who had been in long-term foster care increased to 25 in 2018 from 21 in 2017.

Of the balance, 7 were adoptions of infants placed for adoption in Ireland.

The Authority received 121 requests for birth certificate releases.

43 birth certificates were released.

A total of 313 entries was made in the Register of Intercountry Adoptions in respect of all relevant sections of the Adoption Act 2010.

The Authority continued its oversight of intercountry adoptions, which numbered 41.

Countries that Ireland links with are Bulgaria, China, Haiti, India, Philippines, Poland, Thailand, USA, Vietnam.

The Authority processed 639 applications to the national adoption contact register.

105 matches between adopted persons and birth relatives were made.

Since 2005, 70% of those joining an adoption contact register are adoptees and 30% are relatives.

The Authority acknowledged the continued support and assistance of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs and the staff of the Department.

The Authority continues to prioritise hearing the voice of the child in all adoption related matters.

The Authority processed 639 applications to the national adoption contact register.

The social work team received 206 calls to the duty social work phone line.

Development of AAI website continued with a substantial new young person's section added Targeted Q&A section, information leaflets for young people and two video clips published.

The Board held its annual Circuit meeting in Waterford.

Committees of the Board = Risk and Audit Committee and Research Subcommittee.

2015 2016 2017 2018
92 102 121 105

Matches by year 2015-2018

The Authority hosted a visit by a delegation from Vietnam’s Department of Adoption-Ministry of Justice, which Minister Katherine Zappone attended.

25 Parliamentary Questions answered
20 requests under the Freedom of Information Acts received
15 Data Protection requests received.

The social work team received 206 calls to the duty social work phone line.